

US Army Corps of Engineers Twin Cities Flood Damage Reduction Project

Coordination Team Discussion – Background

Recent discussions at the April 30 meeting of this project policy team and among Flood Authority members have raised questions about the team, its purpose, and how it does and will function in support of the Twin Cities project. The following information is intended to support discussions on this topic.

Description

The team provides guidance to the USACE and state project managers by identifying issues that need to be addressed and evaluating the needs associated with issues. Where issues require the expertise of staff at local or state agencies, team members will consider assigning those resources under their jurisdiction. Where outreach strategies are contemplated by the project managers, the Project Coordination Team will provide input on the format, content and logistics of those strategies. As specific approaches to various project solutions or components are developed, the team will consider and provide advice to the project managers about them.

Members

- USACE technical/project team members
- Senior agency managers
- Project managers
- Flood Authority representative(s) – as identified by the Flood Authority
- Tribal Governments

Background

The team was originally envisioned as a small group with a single representative from the Flood Authority. More recently, the USACE and state project manager have sought to broaden participation from interested stakeholders in the coordination team process by allowing for additions to the team from amongst the Flood Authority membership. The goal is to ensure that jurisdictions affected by the project are provided the best opportunity to provide input into important decisions throughout development of the project.

Going forward

We would like to work with the Flood Authority on this issue to ensure that participation on the coordination team is consistent with your needs, while emphasizing the essential nature of participation in our process. In addition, we intend to reinforce the role of the team members and the other interested parties who want to attend through a revision in our meeting invitation process.